

## RICHARDS GETTING UP FULLER ANSWER TO LAXITY CHARGES

Assessor to File Series of Reports in Refutation.

Following his first general denial, Assessor W. F. Richards is preparing a series of reports to be submitted to the Commissioners in refutation of the statement of the subcommittee of the House District Committee that real estate in the District is assessed "irregularly, unscientifically, and without system and with gross discrimination."

From records of sales and other data in his office, the assessor will show, it was said today, that the board of assessors has performed its duty in accordance with the law, and without fear or favor.

One statement to which emphatic denial is made, that large suburban areas are assessed at 50 per cent of the true value. In support of this, attention was directed by the committee to the assessment of \$5,500 an acre on Friendship, the property of John R. McLean, in Wisconsin avenue. The assessment was made by Herbert J. Browne, the realty expert employed to aid in the investigation, that \$20,000 an acre would not buy it.

The Assessor will produce figures to show property in the immediate neighborhood and considered equally as valuable can be purchased at a figure no greater than the valuation upon which the assessment of the McLean property is based.

**Agree on Many Things.**  
Many of the changes in the laws relating to the assessment and taxation of real estate recommended by the committee have long been urged by the Assessor. Included in them are the following:

Annual instead of triennial assessments.  
The recording of true consideration in all real estate transfers.  
Increase in the personnel of the Assessor's office.  
The creation of a board of appeals from which the field assessors shall be excluded.

The divorcing of excise matters from the Assessor's office.  
Concerning the last recommendation, both the Commissioners and the Board of Assessors are in hearty accord. It is their opinion that the time of the Assessor should be devoted exclusively to real estate matters, and that the duties of the Excise Board should be placed on other shoulders.

**Considered Before.**  
The proposition that an excise board be created to consist of the judges of the Police Court and the Juvenile Court was under consideration last winter, but, after careful consideration, the Commissioners decided it to be impracticable.

The appointment of an excise commissioner, leaving the administration of the excise laws entirely in the hands of one man also was suggested. The suggestion was not adopted, and the problem is still under consideration by the Commissioners.

The question will be taken up again in the fall, and it is probable that a report containing recommendations for the transfer of the duties of the excise board from the board of assistant assessors will be forwarded to Congress at the beginning of the next session.

**Denied Fair Deal.**  
The statement is made by members of the Board of Assessors that in the hearing before the subcommittee they were not allowed full opportunity to cross-examine witnesses for the purpose of bringing out evidence favorable to their side of the case.

In his statement to the Commissioners Assessor Richards will take up the report of the committee item by item, and will cover in detail the various points of evidence presented. It is asserted also that the investigation was conducted almost wholly by Congressman Henry George, Jr., of New York, assisted by Herbert J. Browne, who was employed as a realty expert. At no time, it is stated, was there more than one member in addition to Mr. George in attendance at the hearings.

The committee consists of Congressman Ben Johnson, William A. Oldfield, Henry George, Jr., William C. Redfield, C. O. Lobeck, Cyrus Sullivan, Leonidas C. Dyer, and Victor L. Berger.

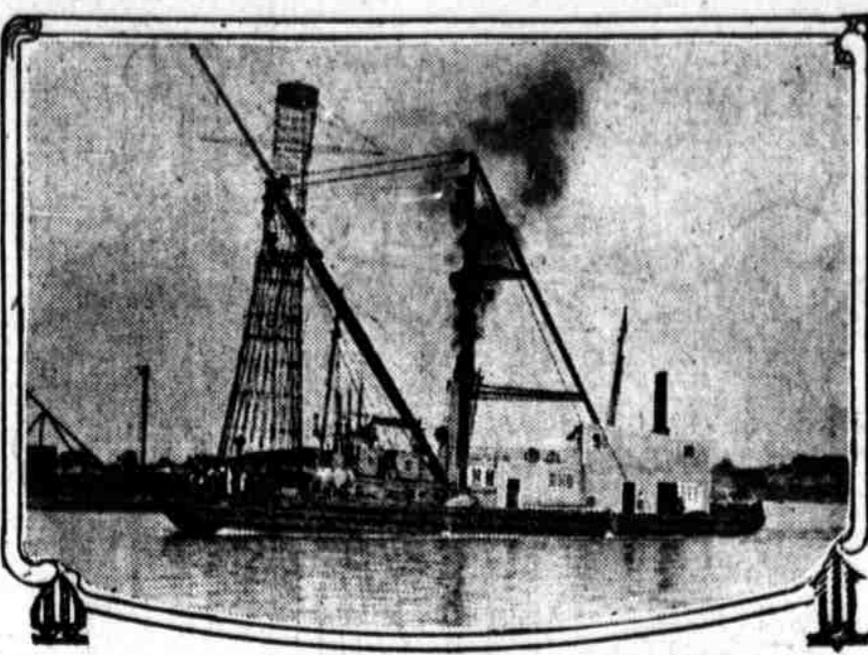
### Steam Trawle Ashore

Off Baker's Island

GLoucester, Mass., Aug. 22.—The big steam trawler *Heroline* ran ashore in the fog off Baker's Island early today. She floated off with the tide with the loss of her propeller. A tug was sent for from Boston, and she started back for Boston under tow.

The *Heroline* was coming in George's Bank with a cargo of fish.

## Mast That Is Target for Big Guns



## REAL ESTATE MEN THINK ASSESSMENT BOARD OVERWORKED

Agents Disagree As to Truth of Report Made By District Committee.

Real estate men are loath to discuss for publication the special assessment report of the subcommittee of the House District Committee. It is generally the opinion that much of what the committee sets forth is true and much inaccurate, and there is a disposition to criticize the estimated increase in the value of all District real estate after so short an examination into conditions as the committee has given. Many will not express opinions until after they have found time to read the whole report.

There is practically no disposition to criticize the assessors, and the consensus of opinion is that the men who assess real estate in the District are overburdened with work, very much underpaid, and do as well as any one could under the circumstances under which they labor.

### Is For Publicity.

"While there is nearly always agitation over realty assessments in every city," said Elijah E. Knott, "I fear that there is much truth in what the committee has brought out. Assessments should be on a true cash value, and in order to get that value true considerations in deeds should be required, and the recording of leases running over a year. This is compulsory in Canada and works out satisfactorily."

"There is no question but that there are a favored few in Washington in regard to assessments," said W. A. Craig, of Craig & Haas, Inc., "but that is the case everywhere."

"I agree with practically everything the committee finds, but I do not criticize the assessors," said another real estate man who would not be quoted. "We ought to have high salaried experts as assessors. It is a shame that men in those positions are given no more than clerks' salaries."

"The committee shows that it has no idea of values in Washington, whatever it may have of those in other places," said Charles P. Stone, of Stone & Fairfax. "For instance, in the case of the Larz Anderson property, if that property as a whole were put on the market today, it would not bring more than half of what a 25 by 100 foot lot adjoining is worth."

### Calls It Absurd.

Another real estate man who is mentioned in the report, but who would not permit his name to be used, said that it is absurd to assume that the committee could arrive at a conclusion that Washington property is worth more than double what it is assessed at in the short time given to the investigation.

"When it takes a condemnation commission months to arrive at the true value of a few pieces of property, by what possible process could the committee reach its conclusion that all the property in the District is worth what they have declared," he asked. "It is absurd on the face of it."

That it is the disposition of Congress to upset established customs radically and suddenly, and to find some way of getting away from the half-and-half principle of appropriations, are the views expressed by two other prominent real estate men. Many say that they have not had time to read the report.

## BATTLESHIPS READY TO FIRE ON MAST OF THE OLD TEXAS

Atlantic Fleet Will Assemble to Watch Work In Chesapeake Bay.

NORFOLK, Va., Aug. 22.—Practically the entire Atlantic fleet, under command of Rear Admiral Hugo Osterhaus, will assemble in Chesapeake bay, near Tangiers sound, next week, when a skeleton mast, such as are used on the battleships of today will be subjected to the fire of the biggest guns on the biggest ships of the American navy.

The mast, which was built at the Norfolk navy yard, was towed to Tangiers sound Monday. It will be erected on the sunken hull of the battleship *San Marcos*, formerly the *Texas*, which lies half buried in the mud, riddled from stem to stern with holes, a grim monument to the aim of American gunners.

The tests to be made with the mast will, it is believed, establish its stability and value when under fire from big guns. The Navy Department has never conducted experiments of a similar nature, and the outcome of those to be made at Tangiers is not only interesting to the Government, but is being waited for by foreign powers.

The Government evidently did not care for outsiders to get a view of the mast at close range, because permission to photograph it was refused by the commandant of the Norfolk navy yard, and it was not started on its journey to Tangiers sound until late Sunday evening—too late for possibly waiting photographers to snap it as it passed down the harbor.

The mast, which is made exactly like those in use on battleships, excepting that there are no real searchlights on it—will be subjected to a continuous fire from ten, twelve, and thirteen inch guns on several battleships.

The Atlantic fleet will look on so the officers and men can gain some information that might be of value to them in the near future. The *Delaware* and *Utah*, it is said, will be the two ships selected to fire on the mast.

## Greeks Send Aid to Stricken Countrymen

Greeks living in this country and members of the Pan-Hellenic Union yesterday sent \$5,000 to the patriarch of Constantinople to be used by him in aiding their countrymen made homeless by the earthquakes in the vicinity of the Turkish metropolis.

The Turkish government is reported unable to do much for the sufferers because its exchequer has been depleted by the war with Italy. Contributions are being received locally by Soterious Nicholson, an attorney.

### Pastor Says Unrest Is Forcing End of World

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Aug. 22.—Declaring that the political unrest now sweeping over the country; the increase in crime and the growing laxity in family relations all were uniting to sap the vitality of the race, the Rev. A. P. Southey, of Chateaugay, N. Y., declared in a sermon here that the world was coming to its end.

He said today that it would not be burned up, as popularly supposed, but that it would simply become nothing and disappear because of political, social, and moral unrest.

## DEMOCRACY MEETS TO SOUND PRAISES OF PARTY TICKET

District Leaders Hold Rally and Get Message From Wilson.

Democrats of the District to the number of 1,000 met at the Arcade last evening and cheered again and again for Wilson and Marshall. Also they cheered denunciations of Taft and Roosevelt. A number of speakers strided up the crowd all they could, and this was a good deal for the audience was quite ready to be stirred.

Senators Reed and Manning, Congressman Hardy and Kyle B. Price, of Alabama, made addresses, besides the chairman of the evening, Robert E. Mattingly, who is chairman of the District Democratic central committee. John B. Colpoys, who is secretary of the central committee, read a telegram from Governor Wilson. The message said:

"Sincerely sorry I cannot attend the meeting under the auspices of the Democratic central committee of the District. May I not extend to the Democrats who will gather my warmest greetings, and my sympathy in the enthusiasm they feel for the bright prospects of the party. It should now at last be able to serve the people effectively."

Senator Reed was the principal speaker of the evening. He denounced

President Taft's course on the tariff, particularly in connection with the tariff board.

"If the acts of the President," said Senator Reed, "in trying to force the House of Representatives to enact tariff bills strictly in accordance with the opinion of the men called a tariff board, had been done in England, he would have lost his throne or his head."

Calling attention to the constitutional provision which says that all bills for revenue must originate in the House, Senator Reed asserted that when a President denies the House the right to pass a tariff bill without a report from a so-called tariff board, he is placing a body of five men ahead of the great body of the Representatives of the people, and robbing the people of their right to originate, through the House, all revenue bills. Congressman Hardy attempted a little humor at the expense of Colonel Roosevelt and then made lengthy allegations that the present House is trying to pass legislation beneficial to the public. Senator Manning told of the career of Woodrow Wilson before his nomination for President, and dwelt upon his success as governor of New Jersey.

## Battleship Delaware Gets Efficiency Pennant

Assistant Secretary of the Navy Beekman Winthrop, on board the yacht *Mayflower*, arrived at Hampton Roads this morning and this afternoon will present to Capt. John Hood, commanding the superdreadnaught *Delaware*, a pennant as a reward for the efficiency record of that vessel.

The battle efficiency pennant was held by the *Michigan* last year.

Accompanying the Secretary are Rear Admiral Hutch L. Cone, chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, and Lieut. Com. Thomas T. Craven, director of largest practice and engineering commission.

## CONFEREES SLASH DISTRICT ITEMS FROM SUNDRY BILL

Meridian Hill Park Appropriation Among Those Dropped.

District of Columbia items in the sundry civil bill were slashed by the conferees on the sundry civil bill.

The Senate amendment, which provided for a \$25,000 appropriation to begin improvement of Meridian Hill Park was stricken from the bill. The House provision of \$27,000 for improvement and maintenance of various Government reservations was retained. The conferees allowed \$35,000 to improve Potomac Park and the Montrose Park appropriation was cut from \$10,000 to \$5,000. The allowance of \$250,000 for a pneumatic tube system was cut out. The only allowance for the improvements for the Government Hospital for the Insane was the Senate proposal for \$20,000 for tubercular cottages.

The obstacle to payment of expenses of employees of the District and Federal Government who have attended meetings of societies and conventions in line of their work was temporarily removed by making the provision against such payment not operative the present fiscal year.

## Fire Destroys Big Tent Of Circus; Loss \$100,000

STERLING, Ill., Aug. 22.—The main tent of Ringling Brothers circus was destroyed by fire here. Thousands of people had assembled for the performance, and there was great excitement. Perfect police organization, however, prevented a serious panic and no one was injured.

The fire spread to the menagerie tent, causing an uproar among the hundreds of animals. Fortunately, the circus people, aided by the local police and fire department, succeeded in dropping the canvas to the animal tent, and smothering the flames. The roar of the beasts was terrific. The loss will reach \$100,000.

## Contagion Avoided by Tyree's Powder

For the treatment of all catarrhal and infected conditions of the mucous membrane, there is nothing so effective as Tyree's Antiseptic Powder. Not only is it positive in its action, but it is absolutely safe in the hands of anyone. Contains no poisons, thus making it the ideal sterilizing agent.

Being a powerful germicide and antiseptic, Tyree's Powder is for general use. Especially efficacious for prickly heat, poison oak, hives, insect bites, sun-burn, offensive perspiration, tender feet itching. Unsurpassed when used as a douche. A twenty-five-cent box will make two gallons standard antiseptic solution. Strongly recommended by physicians. Sold by druggists everywhere. Send for booklet and sample, J. S. Tyree, Chemist, Washington, D. C.

# THIS LITTLE AD

YOUNG MAN, with ability as salesman, to call on Washington druggists and surrounding territory. Proposition is nationally advertised and well-known laxative. Salary by commission, or both. Exceptional opportunity for permanent position. Give previous experience and references. Address BOX 482, Times office.

## Brought These Results

ONE of New York's large national advertising agencies wrote The Washington TIMES, asking if we could "put them next" to an active salesman who could dispose of the goods of one of their clients in Washington and vicinity.

We didn't happen to know of any such young man, but we did know (by experience) how to get in touch with one.

We accordingly wrote this advertising agency, recommending that they make their wants known in the "Help Wanted" Columns of The Washington TIMES, telling them how our "Want" Column ads proved successful time and time again in matters of this kind. The agency told us to "go ahead." We did, with the result illustrated above.

If The Washington Times can bring nineteen re-

plies to a little eight (8) line Classified Ad for a concern in New York, what can it do for you right here in Washington?

You had better figure this out.

You know what you have to offer. You ought to know that we have the readers you want to reach.

You will also be pleased to know that The Times has at your disposal, free of charge, a competent Copy Department, which will give you any necessary aid in the preparation of your advertising. In fact, this department will take the responsibility of preparing your ads entirely off your shoulders, if you so desire.

Just Phone Main 5260, and ask for the Manager of Classified Advertising—or drop him a postal. You will get immediate attention—and the right kind of attention.

# Times Want Ads Bring Results

## The States were never more United than in their praise of—

# Natwet

"The Smoothest" TOBACCO

10 TINS Handy 5 bags - or one pound glass humidor jars

Leggett & Myers Tobacco Co.